

Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, White Females- United States, 2002*

Rank	Age Group in Years													
	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 +	65-74	75-84	85 +	All Ages
1	Unintentional injuries 32.0%	Unintentional injuries 33.0%	Unintentional injuries 34.8%	Unintentional injuries 59.2%	Unintentional injuries 44.2%	Unintentional injuries 27.3%	Cancer 28.9%	Cancer 40.2%	Cancer 43.4%	Heart disease 31.7%	Cancer 35.7%	Heart disease 28.9%	Heart disease 37.2%	Heart disease 28.8%
2	Birth defects 12.7%	Cancer 21.0%	Cancer 15.9%	Cancer 7.3%	Cancer 9.9%	Cancer 17.4%	Unintentional injuries 16.0%	Heart disease 14.5%	Heart disease 18.7%	Cancer 18.8%	Heart disease 22.8%	Cancer 22.2%	Stroke 10.5%	Cancer 21.6%
3	Cancer 9.5%	Birth defects 8.4%	Birth defects 6.9%	Suicide 6.3%	Suicide 8.4%	Suicide 9.2%	Heart disease 11.1%	Unintentional injuries 7.1%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 6.1%	Stroke 9.0%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 8.6%	Stroke 8.7%	Cancer 9.7%	Stroke 8.1%
4	Homicide 7.3%	Homicide 5.1%	Suicide 4.6%	Homicide 4.7%	Homicide 7.1%	Heart disease 7.1%	Suicide 5.8%	Stroke 3.6%	Stroke 3.9%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 5.9%	Stroke 5.5%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 7.3%	Alzheimer's disease 6.0%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 5.6%
5	Heart disease 3.5%	Heart disease 3.7%	Homicide 4.1%	Heart disease 2.8%	Heart disease 3.5%	Homicide 4.9%	Chronic liver disease 3.6%	Diabetes 3.2%	Diabetes 3.7%	Alzheimer's disease 4.3%	Diabetes 3.9%	Alzheimer's disease 3.7%	Influenza & pneumonia 4.6%	Alzheimer's disease 3.6%
6	Influenza & pneumonia 1.9%	Benign neoplasms 2.1%	Heart disease 3.5%	Birth defects 2.5%	Birth defects 2.5%	Stroke 2.1%	Stroke 3.2%	Chronic liver disease 3.2%	Unintentional injuries 2.7%	Influenza & pneumonia 3.4%	Unintentional injuries 1.7%	Diabetes 3.2%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 3.9%	Influenza & pneumonia 3.1%
7	Septicemia 1.7%	Influenza & pneumonia 2.0%	Influenza & pneumonia 2.0%	Septicemia 0.7%	Stroke 1.1%	Diabetes 2.0%	Diabetes 2.4%	Suicide 2.9%	Chronic liver disease 1.9%	Diabetes 2.8%	Influenza & pneumonia 1.6%	Influenza & pneumonia 2.8%	Diabetes 2.0%	Unintentional injuries 3.0%
8	Benign neoplasms 1.5%	Stroke 1.5%	Stroke 1.7%	Influenza & pneumonia 0.7%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 1.0%	HIV disease 1.8%	Homicide 2.1%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 2.8%	Septicemia 1.4%	Unintentional injuries 1.8%	Septicemia 1.6%	Unintentional injuries 1.8%	Unintentional injuries 1.8%	Diabetes 2.8%
9	Stroke 1.2%	Septicemia 1.1%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 1.6%	Diabetes 0.6%	Diabetes 0.9%	Birth defects 1.7%	HIV disease 1.9%	Septicemia 1.3%	Kidney disease 1.3%	Kidney disease 1.7%	Kidney disease 1.5%	Kidney disease 1.8%	Kidney disease 1.6%	Kidney disease 1.6%
10	Perinatal conditions 1.2%	Anemias 0.9%	Septicemia 1.4%	(10)Benign neoplasms 0.5% (10)Chronic lower respiratory diseases 0.5%	(10)Influenza & pneumonia 0.8% (10)Pregnancy complications 0.8%	Influenza & pneumonia 1.3%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 1.5%	Influenza & pneumonia 1.2%	Influenza & pneumonia 1.2%	Septicemia 1.4%	Chronic liver disease 1.3%	Septicemia 1.5%	Septicemia 1.3%	Septicemia 1.4%

*Percentages represent total deaths in the age group due to the cause indicated. Numbers in parentheses indicate tied rankings. The white race group includes persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Some terms have been shortened from those used in the National Vital Statistics Report. See the next page for a listing of the shortened terms in the table and their unabridged equivalents. To learn more, including the leading causes of death by age and race/ethnicity, visit *Deaths: Leading Causes for 2002* at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr53/nvsr53_17.pdf (HHS, CDC, NCHS).

Shortened Terms and Unabridged Equivalents for Leading Causes of Death

Due to limited space, some terms in the leading causes of death table have been shortened from those used in the National Vital Statistics Report. Below is a listing of the shortened terms used in the table and their unabridged equivalents used in the report.

SHORTENED TERMS

Benign neoplasms
Bronchitis
Cancer
Chronic liver disease
Birth defects
Diabetes
Heart disease
HIV disease
Homicide
Hypertension
Kidney disease
Medical & surgical care complications
Perinatal conditions
Pregnancy complications
Stroke
Suicide
Unintentional injuries

UNABRIDGED TERMS

In situ neoplasms, benign neoplasms and neoplasms of uncertain or unknown behavior
Acute bronchitis and bronchiolitis
Malignant neoplasms
Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities
Diabetes mellitus
Diseases of heart
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) disease
Assault (homicide)
Essential (primary) hypertension and hypertensive renal disease
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis
Complications of medical and surgical care
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium
Cerebrovascular diseases
Intentional self-harm
Accidents (unintentional injuries)